

REMARKS


Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the application in view of this preliminary amendment. Support for the amended claims is found in the Specification at, for example, Figure 2 and the associated textual description (e.g., paragraphs 21-24), which, in particular, describe the method of new claims 9-14. Additional support is found in the Specification at, for example, Figure 1 and the associated textual description (e.g., paragraphs 14-17), which, in particular, describe the system and apparatus of new claims 15-22. Further support for the claims is found elsewhere in the Specification. Applicant's undersigned representative is available to provide additional details regarding support for the claims upon request by the Examiner.

If the Examiner has any questions or matters that can be expediently handled by telephone, he or she is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (206) 359-3925.

Respectfully submitted,

Perkins Coie LLP

Date: March 31, 2004



Michelle Sarruf

Registration No. 55,828

Correspondence Address:

Customer No. 30083

Perkins Coie LLP/AWS

P.O. Box 1247

Seattle, Washington 98111-1247

(206) 359-8000